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# A RECOMBINATION ALGORITHM FOR THE DECOMPOSITION OF MULTIVARIATE RATIONAL FUNCTIONS

GUILLAUME CHÈZE

ABSTRACT. In this paper we show how we can compute in a deterministic way the decomposition of a multivariate rational function with a recombination strategy. The key point of our recombination strategy is the used of Darboux polynomials. We study the complexity of this strategy and we show that this method improves the previous ones. In appendix, we explain how the strategy proposed recently by J. Berthomieu and G. Lecerf for the sparse factorization can be used in the decomposition setting. Then we deduce a decomposition algorithm in the sparse bivariate case and we give its complexity.

## INTRODUCTION

The decomposition of univariate polynomials has been widely studied since 1922, see [Rit22], and efficient algorithms are known, see [AT85, BZ85, KL89, Gat90a, Gat90b, Gie88, Klü99]. There also exist results and algorithms in the multivariate case [Dic87, Gat90a, Gie88, GGR03].

The decomposition of rational functions has also been studied, [Gie88, Zip91, AGR95, GW95]. In the multivariate case the situation is the following:

Let  $f(X_1, \dots, X_n) = f_1(X_1, \dots, X_n)/f_2(X_1, \dots, X_n) \in \mathbb{K}(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  be a rational function, where  $\mathbb{K}$  is a field and  $n \geq 2$ . It is commonly said to be composite if it can be written  $f = u(h)$  where  $h(X_1, \dots, X_n) \in \mathbb{K}(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  and  $u \in \mathbb{K}(T)$  such that  $\deg(u) \geq 2$  (recall that the degree of a rational function is the maximum of the degrees of its numerator and denominator after reduction), otherwise  $f$  is said to be non-composite. In this paper, we give an algorithm which computes a non-composite rational function  $h \in \mathbb{K}(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  and a rational function  $u \in \mathbb{K}(T)$  such that  $f = u(h)$ .

In [Chè10], the author shows that we can reduce the decomposition problem to a factorization problem and gives a probabilistic and a deterministic algorithm. The probabilistic algorithm is nearly optimal: it performs  $\tilde{O}(d^n)$  arithmetic operations. The deterministic one computes  $\mathcal{O}(d^2)$  absolute factorizations and then performs  $\tilde{O}(d^{n+\omega+2})$  arithmetic operations, where  $d$  is the degree of  $f$  and  $\omega$  is the *feasible matrix multiplication* exponent as defined in [GG03, Chapter 12]. We recall that  $2 \leq \omega \leq 2.376$ . As in [Chè10], we suppose in this work that  $d$  tends to infinity and  $n$  is fixed. We use the classical  $\mathcal{O}$  and  $\tilde{O}$  (“soft  $\mathcal{O}$ ”) notation in the neighborhood of infinity as defined in [GG03, Chapter 25.7]. Informally speaking, “soft  $\mathcal{O}$ ”s are used for readability in order to hide logarithmic factors in complexity estimates. In this paper we improve the complexity of the deterministic algorithm. With this algorithm we just compute two factorizations in  $\mathbb{K}[X_1, \dots, X_n]$  and then we

use a recombination strategy. Under some hypotheses this new method performs  $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}(d^{n+\omega-1})$  arithmetic operations.

The decomposition of multivariate rational functions appears when we study the kernel of a derivation, see [MO04]. In [MO04] the author uses Darboux polynomials and gives an algorithm which works with  $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}(d^{\omega n})$  arithmetic operations. In this paper, we are also going to use Darboux polynomials (see Section 1 for a definition) and we add a recombination strategy. Roughly speaking, we are going to factorize the numerator and the denominator and then thanks to a property of Darboux polynomials we are going to show that we can recombine the factors and deduce the decomposition.

The decomposition of multivariate rational functions also appears when we study intermediate fields of an unirational field and the extended Lüroth's Theorem, see [GRS01, Chè10], and when we study the spectrum of a rational function, see [Chè10] and the references therein.

The study of decomposition is an active area of research: for a study on multivariate polynomial systems see e.g. [FP09, FGP10], for a study on symbolic polynomials see e.g. [Wat09], for a study on Laurent polynomials see e.g. [Wat08], for effective results on the reduction modulo a prime number of a non-composite polynomial or a rational function see e.g. [CN10, BDN09, BCN], for combinatorial results see e.g. [Gat08].

In this paper, we improve the strategy proposed in [MO04]. As in [MO04], we consider fields with characteristic zero. Furthermore, as we want to give precise complexity estimate we are going to suppose that:

Hypothesis (C):

$\mathbb{K}$  is a number field:  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{Q}[\alpha]$ ,  $\alpha$  is an algebraic number of degree  $r$ .

As in [Chè10], we are going to suppose that the following hypothesis is satisfied:

Hypothesis (H):

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} (i) \deg(f_1 + \Lambda f_2) = \deg_{X_n}(f_1 + \Lambda f_2), \text{ where } \Lambda \text{ is a new variable,} \\ (ii) R(\Lambda) = \text{Res}_{X_n}\left(f_1(\underline{0}, X_n) + \Lambda f_2(\underline{0}, X_n), \partial_{X_n} f_1(\underline{0}, X_n) + \Lambda \partial_{X_n} f_2(\underline{0}, X_n)\right) \neq 0 \text{ in } \mathbb{K}[\Lambda]. \end{array} \right.$$

where  $\deg_{X_n} f$  represents the partial degree of  $f$  in the variable  $X_n$ ,  $\deg f$  is the total degree of  $f$  and  $\text{Res}_{X_n}$  denotes the resultant relatively to the variable  $X_n$ .

This hypothesis is necessary, because we will use the factorization algorithms proposed in [Lec07], where this kind of hypothesis is needed. Actually, in [Lec07] the author studies the factorization of a polynomial  $F$  and uses hypothesis (L), where (L) is the following:

Hypothesis (L):

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} (i) \deg_{X_n} F = \deg F, \text{ and } F \text{ is monic in } X_n, \\ (ii) \text{Res}_{X_n}\left(F(\underline{0}, X_n), \frac{\partial F}{\partial X_n}(\underline{0}, X_n)\right) \neq 0. \end{array} \right.$$

If  $F$  is squarefree, then hypothesis (L) is not restrictive since it can be assured by means of a generic linear change of variables, but we will not discuss this question here (for a complete treatment in the bivariate case, see [CL07, Proposition 1]).

Roughly speaking, our hypothesis (H) is the hypothesis (L) applied to the polynomial  $f_1 + \Lambda f_2$ . In (H, $i$ ) we do not assume that  $f_1 + \Lambda f_2$  is monic in  $X_n$ . Indeed, the leading coefficient relatively to  $X_n$  can be written:  $a + \Lambda b$ , with  $a, b \in \mathbb{K}$ . In our algorithm, we evaluate  $\Lambda$  to  $\lambda$  such that  $a + \lambda b \neq 0$ . Then we can consider the monic part of  $f_1 + \lambda f_2$  and we get a polynomial satisfying (L, $i$ ). Then (H, $i$ ) is sufficient in our situation. Furthermore, in this paper, we assume  $f_1/f_2$  to be reduced, i.e.  $f_1$  and  $f_2$  are coprime. We recall in Lemma 9 that in this situation  $f_1 + \Lambda f_2$  is squarefree. Thus hypothesis (H) is not restrictive.

Furthermore, hypothesis (H) will also be useful in a preprocessing step, see Section 2. In this preprocessing step we reduce the decomposition to two factorizations of squarefree polynomials.

**Complexity model.** In this paper the complexity estimates charge a constant cost for each arithmetic operation ( $+$ ,  $-$ ,  $\times$ ,  $\div$ ) and the equality test. All the constants in the base fields are thought to be freely at our disposal.

In this paper we suppose that *the number of variables  $n$  is fixed* and that the degree  $d$  tends to infinity.

Polynomials are represented by dense vectors of their coefficients in the usual monomial basis. For each integer  $d$ , we assume that we are given a computation tree that computes the product of two univariate polynomials of degree at most  $d$  with at most  $\tilde{O}(d)$  operations, independently of the base ring, see [GG03, Theorem 8.23]. Then with a Kronecker substitution we can compute the product of two multivariate polynomials with degree  $d$  with  $n$  variables with  $\tilde{O}(d^n)$  arithmetic operations. We also recall, see [GG03, Corollary 11.8], that if  $\mathbb{K}$  is an algebraic extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$  of degree  $r$  then each field operation in  $\mathbb{K}$  takes  $\tilde{O}(r)$  arithmetic operations in  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

We use the constant  $\omega$  to denote a *feasible matrix multiplication* exponent as defined in [GG03, Chapter 12]: two  $n \times n$  matrices over  $\mathbb{K}$  can be multiplied with  $\mathcal{O}(n^\omega)$  field operations. As in [BP94] we require that  $2 \leq \omega \leq 2.376$ . We recall that the computation of a solution basis of a linear system with  $m$  equations and  $d \leq m$  unknowns over  $\mathbb{K}$  takes  $\mathcal{O}(md^{\omega-1})$  operations in  $\mathbb{K}$  [BP94, Chapter 2] (see also [Sto00, Theorem 2.10]).

In [Lec06, Lec07] the author gives a deterministic algorithm for the multivariate rational factorization. The rational factorization of a polynomial  $f$  is the factorization in  $\mathbb{K}[\underline{X}]$ , where  $\mathbb{K}$  is the coefficient field of  $f$ . This algorithm uses one factorization of a univariate polynomial of degree  $d$  and  $\tilde{O}(d^{n+\omega-1})$  arithmetic operations, where  $d$  is the total degree of the polynomial and  $n \geq 2$  is the number of variables.

**Main Theorem.** The following theorem gives the complexity result of our algorithm.

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $f$  be a multivariate rational function in  $\mathbb{Q}[\alpha](X_1, \dots, X_n)$  of degree  $d$ , where  $\alpha$  is an algebraic number of degree  $r$ . Under hypotheses (C) and (H), we can compute in a deterministic way the decomposition of  $f$  with  $\tilde{O}(rd^{n+\omega-1})$  arithmetic operations over  $\mathbb{Q}$  plus two factorizations of univariate polynomials of degree  $d$  with coefficients in  $\mathbb{Q}[\alpha]$ .*

**Comparison with other algorithms.** There already exist several algorithms for the decomposition of rational functions. They all use the same global strategy: first compute  $h$ , and then deduce  $u$ . The first step is the difficult part of the problem.

In [Chè10], we explain how we can perform the second step, i.e. compute  $u$  from  $h$  and  $f$ , with  $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}(d^n)$  arithmetics operations.

In [GRS01], the authors provide two algorithms to decompose a multivariate rational function. These algorithms run in exponential time in the worst case. In the first one we have to factorize polynomials with  $2n$  variables  $f_1(\underline{X})f_2(\underline{Y}) - f_1(\underline{Y})f_2(\underline{X})$  and to look for factors of the following kind  $h_1(\underline{X})h_2(\underline{Y}) - h_1(\underline{Y})h_2(\underline{X})$ . The authors say that in the worst case the number of candidates to be tested is exponential in  $d = \deg(f_1/f_2)$ . Indeed, the authors test all the possible factors.

In the second algorithm, for each pair of factors  $(h_1, h_2)$  of  $f_1$  and  $f_2$  (i.e.  $h_1$  divides  $f_1$  and  $h_2$  divides  $f_2$ ), we have to test if there exists  $u \in \mathbb{K}(T)$  such that  $f_1/f_2 = u(h_1/h_2)$ . Thus in the worst case we also have an exponential number of candidates to be tested.

To the author's knowledge, the first polynomial time algorithm is due to J. Moulin-Ollagnier, see [MO04]. This algorithm relies on the study of the kernel of the following derivation:  $\delta_\omega(F) = \omega \wedge dF$ , where  $F \in \mathbb{K}[\underline{X}]$  and  $\omega = f_2 df_1 - f_1 df_2$ . In [MO04] the author shows that we can reduce the decomposition of a rational function to linear algebra. The bottleneck of this algorithm is the computation of the kernel of a matrix. The size of this matrix is  $\mathcal{O}(d^n) \times \mathcal{O}(d^n)$ , then the complexity of this deterministic algorithm belongs to  $\mathcal{O}(d^{n\omega})$ .

The reduction of the decomposition problem to a factorization problem is classical, see e.g. [Klü99, Gie88, GW95, GRS01]. In [Chè10] the author shows that if we choose a probabilistic approach then two factorizations in  $\mathbb{K}[X_1, \dots, X_n]$  are sufficient to get  $h$  and furthermore we do not have a recombination problem. This gives a nearly optimal algorithm. For the deterministic approach the author uses a property on the pencil  $f_1 - \lambda f_2$  and shows that with  $\mathcal{O}(d^2)$  absolute factorization (i.e. factorization in the algebraic closure of  $\mathbb{K}$ ) we can get  $h$ . This deterministic strategy works with  $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}(d^{n+\omega+2})$  arithmetic operations.

In this paper, we are going to show that we can obtain a deterministic algorithm with just two factorizations in  $\mathbb{K}[X_1, \dots, X_n]$  and a recombination strategy. Our algorithm uses at most  $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}(d^{n+\omega-1})$  arithmetic operations. This cost corresponds to the cost of the factorization and the recombination step.

Our recombination problem comes from this factorization:

If  $f_1/f_2 = u_1/u_2(h_1/h_2)$  then

$$f_1 - \lambda f_2 = e(h_1 - t_1 h_2) \cdots (h_1 - t_k h_2)$$

where  $\lambda, e \in \mathbb{K}$ ,  $k = \deg(u_1/u_2)$  and  $t_i$  are the roots of the univariate polynomial  $u_1(T) - \lambda u_2(T)$ , see Lemma 10.

Thus with the factors  $h_1 - t_1 h_2$  and  $h_1 - t_2 h_2$  we can deduce  $h$ . Unfortunately these factors are not necessarily in  $\mathbb{K}[X_1, \dots, X_n]$  and are not necessarily irreducible. In this paper we show how we can reduce the problem to a factorization problem in  $\mathbb{K}[X_1, \dots, X_n]$  and how we can recombine the irreducible factors of  $f_1 - \lambda f_2$  to get  $h$ .

We can see our recombination scheme as a *logarithmic derivative method*. Roughly speaking, the logarithmic derivative method works as follow:

If  $F(X, Y) = \prod_{j=1}^t \mathcal{F}_j(X, Y)$ , where  $\mathcal{F}_j(X, Y) \in \mathbb{A}$  and  $\mathbb{A} \supset \mathbb{K}[X, Y]$  (for example  $\mathbb{A} = \mathbb{K}[[X]][Y]$ ), then we can write the irreducible factors  $F_i(X, Y) \in \mathbb{K}[X, Y]$  of  $F$

in the following way:  $F_i = \prod_{j=1}^t \mathcal{F}_j^{e_{i,j}}$ , where  $e_{i,j} \in \{0, 1\}$ . Thus we just have to compute the exponents  $e_{i,j}$  to deduce  $F_i$ . We compute these exponents thanks to this relation:

$$\frac{\partial_X F_i}{F_i} = \sum_{j=1}^t e_{i,j} \frac{\partial_X \mathcal{F}_j}{\mathcal{F}_j}.$$

With this relation the exponents  $e_{i,j}$  are now coefficients, and we can compute them with linear algebra.

This strategy has already been used by several authors in order to factorize polynomials see e.g. [BHKS09, BLS<sup>+</sup>04, Lec06, CL07, Wei10]. Here, we use this kind of technique for the decomposition problem. With this strategy the recombination part of our algorithm corresponds to the computation of the kernel of a  $\mathcal{O}(d^n) \times \mathcal{O}(d)$  matrix.

In our context, we do not use exactly a logarithmic derivative. We use a more general derivation, but we use the same idea: if a mathematical object transforms a product into a sum then the recombination problem becomes a linear algebra problem. In this paper this mathematical object is the cofactor, see Proposition 8.

**Structure of this paper.** In Section 1, we recall some results about the Jacobian derivative and Darboux polynomials. In Section 2, we describe a reduction step which eases the recombination strategy. In other words we explain how we can reduce the decomposition problem to a factorization problem. In Section 3, we explain how we can get  $h$  with a recombination strategy. In Section 4, we describe our algorithm with two examples. In Section 5 we conclude this paper with a remark on Darboux method and the logarithmic derivative method. In appendix, we explain how the strategy proposed recently by J. Berthomieu and G. Lecerf in [BL10] for the sparse factorization can be used in the decomposition setting. Then we deduce a decomposition algorithm in the sparse bivariate case and we give its complexity.

**Notations.** All the rational functions are supposed to be reduced.

Given a polynomial  $f$ ,  $\deg(f)$  denotes its total degree.

Given a rational function  $f = f_1/f_2$ ,  $\deg(f)$  denotes  $\max(\deg(f_1), \deg(f_2))$ .

For the sake of simplicity, sometimes we write  $\mathbb{K}[\underline{X}]$  instead of  $\mathbb{K}[X_1, \dots, X_n]$ , for  $n \geq 2$ .

$u \circ h$  means  $u(h)$ .

$\text{Res}(A, B)$  denotes the resultant of two univariate polynomials  $A$  and  $B$ .

$|S|$  is the cardinal of the set  $S$ .

## 1. DERIVATION AND DARBOUX POLYNOMIALS

We introduce the main tool of our algorithm.

**Definition 2.** A  $\mathbb{K}$ -derivation  $D$  of the polynomial ring  $\mathbb{K}[X_1, \dots, X_n]$  is a  $\mathbb{K}$ -linear map from  $\mathbb{K}[X_1, \dots, X_n]$  to itself that satisfies the Leibniz rule for the product

$$D(f.g) = D(f).g + f.D(g).$$

A  $\mathbb{K}$ -derivation has a unique extension to  $\mathbb{K}(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  and then we will also denote by  $D$  the extended derivation.

**Definition 3.** Given a rational function  $f_1/f_2$ , the Jacobian derivative associated to  $f_1/f_2$  is the following vector derivation, i.e. an  $(n-1)$ -tuple of derivations:

$$D_{f_1/f_2} : \mathbb{K}[X_1, \dots, X_n] \longrightarrow \left( \mathbb{K}[X_1, \dots, X_n] \right)^{n-1}$$

$$F \longmapsto f_2^2 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \partial_{X_1}(f_1/f_2) \partial_{X_2} F - \partial_{X_2}(f_1/f_2) \partial_{X_1} F \\ \vdots \\ \partial_{X_1}(f_1/f_2) \partial_{X_n} F - \partial_{X_n}(f_1/f_2) \partial_{X_1} F \end{pmatrix}.$$

The Jacobian derivative has the following property:

**Proposition 4.** *Given  $f = f_1/f_2$  and  $g \in \mathbb{K}(X_1, \dots, X_n) \setminus \mathbb{K}$  the following propositions are equivalent:*

(1) *The rank of the Jacobian matrix*

$$Jac(f, g) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial f}{\partial X_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f}{\partial X_n} \\ \frac{\partial g}{\partial X_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial g}{\partial X_n} \end{pmatrix}$$

*is equal to one;*

(2)  $D_{f_1/f_2}(g) = 0$ ;

(3) *there exists  $h$  in  $\mathbb{K}(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  such that  $f = u(h)$  and  $g = v(h)$  for  $u, v \in \mathbb{K}(T)$ .*

*Proof.* See [PI07] for a proof. In [PI07],  $\mathbb{K}$  is supposed to be algebraically closed. However, we can remove this hypothesis because we have the equivalence:  $f$  is composite over  $\mathbb{K}$  if and only if  $f$  is composite over  $\overline{\mathbb{K}}$ , see e.g. [BCN, Theorem 13].  $\square$

**Definition 5.** Given  $D$  a vector derivation i.e. an  $m$ -tuple of derivations, a polynomial  $F \in \mathbb{K}[\underline{X}]$  is said to be a Darboux polynomial of  $D$  if there exists  $\mathcal{G} \in (\mathbb{K}[\underline{X}])^m$  such that  $D(F) = F\mathcal{G}$ .  $\mathcal{G}$  is called the cofactor of  $F$  for the derivation  $D$ .

We deduce easily the following classical propositions.

**Proposition 6.**  $f_1$  and  $f_2$  are Darboux polynomials of  $D_{f_1/f_2}$ .

**Proposition 7.**  $D_{f_1/f_2}(h_1/h_2) = 0$  if and only if  $h_1$  and  $h_2$  are Darboux polynomials with the same cofactor.

The following proposition is the main tool of our algorithm. Indeed, this proposition shows that cofactors transform a product into a sum. Then thanks to the cofactors it will be possible to apply a kind of logarithmic derivative recombination scheme.

**Proposition 8.** *Let  $F \in \mathbb{K}[X_1, \dots, X_n]$  be a polynomial and let  $F = F_1^{e_1} \cdots F_r^{e_r}$  be its irreducible factorization in  $\mathbb{K}[X_1, \dots, X_n]$ . Then:*  
 *$F$  is a Darboux polynomial with cofactor  $\mathcal{G}_F$  if and only if all the  $F_i$  are Darboux polynomials with cofactor  $\mathcal{G}_{F_i}$ . Furthermore,  $\mathcal{G}_F = e_1 \mathcal{G}_{F_1} + \cdots + e_r \mathcal{G}_{F_r}$ .*

*Proof.* See for example Lemma 8.3 page 216 in [DLA06].  $\square$

## 2. REDUCTION TO A RATIONAL FACTORIZATION PROBLEM

In this section, we recall how the decomposition problem can be reduced to a factorization problem. Furthermore, we show that we can reduce our problem to a situation where  $f_1$  and  $f_2$  are squarefree. First, we recall some useful lemmas.

**Lemma 9.** *If  $f_1/f_2$  is reduced in  $\mathbb{K}(X_1, \dots, X_n)$ , where  $n \geq 1$  and  $\Lambda$  is a variable, then  $f_1 + \Lambda f_2$  is squarefree.*

**Lemma 10.** *Let  $h = h_1/h_2$  be a rational function in  $\mathbb{K}(\underline{X})$ ,  $u = u_1/u_2$  a rational function in  $\mathbb{K}(T)$  and set  $f = u \circ h$  with  $f = f_1/f_2 \in \mathbb{K}(\underline{X})$ . For all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{K}$  such that  $\deg(u_1 - \lambda u_2) = \deg u$ , we have*

$$f_1 - \lambda f_2 = e(h_1 - t_1 h_2) \cdots (h_1 - t_k h_2)$$

where  $e \in \mathbb{K}$ ,  $k = \deg u$  and  $t_i$  are the roots of the univariate polynomial  $u_1(T) - \lambda u_2(T)$ .

*Proof.* See [Chè10, Lemma 8, Lemma 39].  $\square$

*Remark 11.* If  $\lambda = f_1(\underline{a})/f_2(\underline{a})$ , where  $\underline{a} = (a_1, \dots, a_n) \in \mathbb{K}^n$ , then we can suppose that  $t_1 \in \mathbb{K}$ . Indeed,  $t_1 = h_1(\underline{a})/h_2(\underline{a}) \in \mathbb{K}$ .

The following lemma says that we can always suppose that  $\deg u_1 = \deg u_2 = \deg u$ .

**Lemma 12.** *Let  $h = h_1/h_2$  be a rational function in  $\mathbb{K}(\underline{X})$ ,  $u = u_1/u_2$  a rational function in  $\mathbb{K}(T)$  and set  $f = u \circ h$  with  $f = f_1/f_2 \in \mathbb{K}(\underline{X})$ . There exists an homography  $H(T) = (aT + b)/(\alpha T + \beta) \in \mathbb{K}(T)$  such that:*

*$u \circ H = \tilde{u}_1/\tilde{u}_2$ ,  $\deg \tilde{u}_1 = \deg \tilde{u}_2$ , and  $f = \frac{\tilde{u}_1}{\tilde{u}_2} \circ \tilde{h}$ , where  $\tilde{h} = H^{-1} \circ h$  and  $H^{-1}$  is the inverse of  $H$  for the composition.*

*Proof.* If  $\deg u_1 = \deg u_2$  then we set  $H(T) = T$ .

If  $\deg u_2 > \deg u_1$  then we have:

$$\frac{u_1}{u_2}(H(T)) = \frac{\prod_{i=1}^{\deg u_1} (aT + b - \lambda_i(\alpha T + \beta))}{\prod_{i=1}^{\deg u_2} (aT + b - \mu_i(\alpha T + \beta))} \cdot (\alpha T + \beta)^{\deg u_2 - \deg u_1},$$

where  $u_1(\lambda_i) = 0$  and  $u_2(\mu_i) = 0$ .

We set:

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{u}_1(T) &= (\alpha T + \beta)^{\deg u_2 - \deg u_1} \cdot \prod_{i=1}^{\deg u_1} (aT + b - \lambda_i(\alpha T + \beta)) \\ &= u_1(H(T)) \cdot (\alpha T + \beta)^{\deg u_2} \in \mathbb{K}[T] \\ \tilde{u}_2(T) &= \prod_{i=1}^{\deg u_2} (aT + b - \mu_i(\alpha T + \beta)) \\ &= u_2(H(T)) \cdot (\alpha T + \beta)^{\deg u_2} \in \mathbb{K}[T]. \end{aligned}$$

If  $a - \lambda_i \alpha \neq 0$ ,  $\alpha \neq 0$ , and  $a - \mu_i \alpha \neq 0$  then we get  $\deg \tilde{u}_1 = \deg u_2 = \deg \tilde{u}_2$ .

To conclude the proof we just have to remark that  $\deg H = 1$ , thus  $H$  is invertible for the composition.  $\square$



In order to ease the recombination scheme we reduce our problem to a situation where *the rational function is squarefree, i.e. the numerator and the denominator are squarefree*. The following algorithm shows that if  $f_1$  or  $f_2$  are not squarefree then we can compute an homography  $U(T) \in \mathbb{K}(T)$  such that  $U(f_1/f_2)$  is squarefree. Furthermore, if we know a decomposition  $U(f_1/f_2) = u(h)$  then we can easily deduce a decomposition  $f_1/f_2 = U^{-1}(u(h))$ . We recall that  $U$  is invertible for the composition because  $\deg U = 1$ . Now, we describe an algorithm which computes a good homography.

### Good homography

**Input:**  $f = f_1/f_2 \in \mathbb{K}(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  of degree  $d$ , such that (C) and (H) are satisfied and a finite subset  $S$  of  $\mathbb{K}^n$  such that  $|S| = 2d^2 + 2d$ .

**Output:**  $U(T) = (T - \lambda_a)/(T - \lambda_b)$  such that  $U(f)$  is squarefree,  $\lambda_a = f_1/f_2(\underline{a})$ ,  $\lambda_b = f_1/f_2(\underline{b})$  where  $\underline{a}, \underline{b} \in \mathbb{K}^n$ ,  $\lambda_a \neq \lambda_b$ , and  $\deg_{X_n}(f_1 - \lambda_a f_2) = \deg_{X_n}(f_1 - \lambda_b f_2) = d$ .

- (1) Compute  $\bar{f}_1(X_n) := f_1(\underline{0}, X_n)$ , and  $\bar{f}_2(X_n) := f_2(\underline{0}, X_n)$ .
- (2) Construct an empty list  $L$ .
- (3) For  $i$  from 1 to  $2d^2 + 2d$  do:
  - (a) Compute  $\bar{f} := \bar{f}_1(i)/\bar{f}_2(i)$ .
  - (b) If  $\bar{f} \notin L$  then  $L := \text{concatenate}(L, [\bar{f}])$ .
- (4) Construct an empty list  $\mathcal{L}$ .
- (5) For  $k$  from 1 to  $2d + 2$  do:
  - (a) Compute  $R := \text{Res}_{X_n}(\bar{f}_1(X_n) - L[k]\bar{f}_2(X_n), \partial_{X_n}\bar{f}_1(X_n) - L[k]\partial_{X_n}\bar{f}_2(X_n))$ .
  - (b) If  $R \neq 0$  and  $\deg_{X_n}(\bar{f}_1 - L[k]\bar{f}_2) = d$ , then  $\mathcal{L} := \text{concatenate}(\mathcal{L}, [L[k]])$ .
- (6)  $\lambda_a := \mathcal{L}[1]$ ,  $\lambda_b := \mathcal{L}[2]$ .
- (7) Return  $U(T) = (T - \lambda_a)/(T - \lambda_b)$ .

**Proposition 13.** *The algorithm Good homography is correct.*

*Proof.* In Step 3 we construct a list with at least  $2d + 2$  distinct elements because  $\deg(f) = d$ .

By hypothesis (H),  $R(\Lambda) \neq 0$  and by [GG03, Theorem 6.22],  $\deg(R) \leq 2d - 1$ . Thus  $\mathcal{L}$  contains at least two distinct elements.

As  $R(\lambda_a)$  and  $R(\lambda_b)$  are not equal to zero, and thanks to Step 5b the condition on the degree is satisfied, we deduce that  $f_1 - \lambda_a f_2$  and  $f_1 - \lambda_b f_2$  are squarefree.  $\square$

**Proposition 14.** *The algorithm Good homography can be performed with at most  $\tilde{O}(d^n)$  arithmetic operations over  $\mathbb{K}$ .*

*Proof.* Step 1 can be done with  $\tilde{O}(d^n)$  arithmetic operations with Horner's method.

In Step 3 we use a fast multipoint evaluation strategy, then we can perform this step with at most  $\tilde{O}(d^2)$  arithmetic operations, see [GG03, Corollary 10.8].

In Step 5, the computation of the resultant can be done with  $\tilde{O}(d)$  arithmetic operations, see [GG03, Corollary 11.16]. Thus Step 5 can be done with  $\tilde{O}(d^2)$  arithmetic operations.

In conclusion the algorithm can be performed with the desired complexity.  $\square$

*Remark 15.* Suppose  $f_1/f_2 = v_1/v_2(h)$ . With the algorithm Good homography we can write  $U(f_1/f_2) = u_1/u_2(h)$  with  $u_1/u_2 \in \mathbb{K}(T)$ ,  $h \in \mathbb{K}(X_1, \dots, X_n)$ , and  $u_1$  (resp.  $u_2$ ) has a root  $\alpha_1$  (resp.  $\alpha_2$ ) in  $\mathbb{K}$ . Indeed, we have  $u_1 = v_1 - \lambda_a v_2$  (resp.

$u_2 = v_1 - \lambda_b v_2$ ) and  $\lambda_a = f_1/f_2(\underline{a})$  (resp.  $\lambda_b = f_1/f_2(\underline{b})$ ) then we deduce that  $\alpha_1 = h_1/h_2(\underline{a})$  (resp.  $\alpha_2 = h_1/h_2(\underline{b})$ ).

### 3. THE RECOMBINATION METHOD

In this section we describe our recombination method. First, we introduce some notations. By Proposition 6,  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  are Darboux polynomials of  $D_{F_1/F_2}$ . We denote by

$$\mathcal{G}_{F_k} = (\mathcal{G}_{F_k}^{(2)}, \dots, \mathcal{G}_{F_k}^{(n)})$$

the cofactor of  $F_k$ , where  $k = 1, 2$ , and  $\mathcal{G}_{F_k}^{(l)} \in \mathbb{K}[X_1, \dots, X_n]$ . We set:

$$F_k = \prod_{j=1}^{s_k} F_{k,j}$$

for  $k = 1, 2$ , and

$$\mathcal{G}_{F_{k,j}} = (\mathcal{G}_{F_{k,j}}^{(2)}, \dots, \mathcal{G}_{F_{k,j}}^{(n)}).$$

In  $\mathbb{Q}[\alpha][X_1, \dots, X_n]$  polynomials are denoted in the following way:

$$\mathcal{P} = \sum_{|\tau| \leq d} \sum_{\epsilon=0}^{r-1} a_{\epsilon, \tau} \alpha^\epsilon X_1^{\tau_1} \dots X_n^{\tau_n} \in \mathbb{Q}[\alpha][X_1, \dots, X_n],$$

where  $\alpha$  is an algebraic number of degree  $r$ ,  $\tau = (\tau_1, \dots, \tau_n)$ ,  $|\tau| = \tau_1 + \dots + \tau_n$ , and  $a_{\epsilon, \tau} \in \mathbb{Q}$ . We set

$$\text{coef}(\mathcal{P}, \alpha^\epsilon \underline{X}^\tau) = a_{\epsilon, \tau}.$$

Now we define the linear system  $\mathcal{S}$ :

$$\mathcal{S} := \sum_{j=1}^{s_1} x_{1,j} \text{coef}(\mathcal{G}_{F_{1,j}}^{(l)}, \alpha^\epsilon \underline{X}^\tau) - \sum_{j=1}^{s_2} x_{2,j} \text{coef}(\mathcal{G}_{F_{2,j}}^{(l)}, \alpha^\epsilon \underline{X}^\tau) = 0,$$

where  $|\tau| \leq d$ ,  $0 \leq \epsilon \leq r-1$ , and  $2 \leq l \leq n$ .

We denote by  $\ker \mathcal{S}$  the kernel of this linear system, and we remark that

$$x = (x_{1,1}, \dots, x_{2,s_2}) \in \ker \mathcal{S} \iff \sum_{j=1}^{s_1} x_{1,j} \mathcal{G}_{F_{1,j}} - \sum_{j=1}^{s_2} x_{2,j} \mathcal{G}_{F_{2,j}} = 0.$$

We define the following maps:

$$\begin{aligned} \pi_1 : \mathbb{K}^{s_1+s_2} &\longrightarrow \mathbb{K}^{s_1} \\ (x_{1,1}, \dots, x_{2,s_2}) &\longmapsto (x_{1,1}, \dots, x_{1,s_1}) \\ \pi_2 : \mathbb{K}^{s_1+s_2} &\longrightarrow \mathbb{K}^{s_2} \\ (x_{1,1}, \dots, x_{2,s_2}) &\longmapsto (x_{2,1}, \dots, x_{2,s_2}) \end{aligned}$$

The following proposition will be the key of our algorithm:

**Proposition 16.** *Suppose that  $F_1/F_2 \in \mathbb{K}(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  comes from the algorithm Good Homography and  $F_1/F_2 = u(h)$  where  $h = h_1/h_2 \in \mathbb{K}(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  is a non-composite reduced rational function and  $u = u_1/u_2 \in \mathbb{K}(T)$  is a reduced rational function, with  $\deg u_1 = \deg u_2$ .*

*We denote by  $u_k = \prod_{i=1}^{t_k} u_{k,i}$  the factorization of  $u_k$  in  $\mathbb{K}[T]$ , where  $k = 1, 2$ .*

*We denote by  $F_k = \prod_{j=1}^{s_k} F_{k,j}$  the factorization of  $F_k$  in  $\mathbb{K}[X_1, \dots, X_n]$ , where*

$k = 1, 2$ .

Then:

$$(1) \quad u_{k,i} \left( \frac{h_1}{h_2} \right) \cdot h_2^{\deg u_{k,i}} = \prod_{j=1}^{s_k} F_{k,j}^{e_{k,i,j}} \in \mathbb{K}[X_1, \dots, X_n] \text{ and } e_{k,i,j} \in \{0, 1\}.$$

Furthermore, if we set  $e_{k,i} := (e_{k,i,1}, \dots, e_{k,i,s_k})$ , then

the vectors  $e_{k,i}$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, t_k$ , are orthogonal for the usual scalar product.

$$(2) \quad \text{We have } e_{k,i} \in \pi_k(\ker \mathcal{S}).$$

$$(3) \quad \{e_{k,1}, \dots, e_{k,t_k}\} \text{ is a basis of } \pi_k(\ker \mathcal{S}).$$

*Proof.* (1) By Lemma 10 applied to  $F_1/F_2$  (resp.  $F_2/F_1$ ) with  $\lambda = 0$ , we get

$$F_k = u_k(h_1/h_2) \cdot h_2^{\deg u_k} = \prod_{i=1}^{t_k} u_{k,i}(h_1/h_2) \cdot h_2^{\deg u_{k,i}}.$$

Then we deduce

$$u_{k,i}(h_1/h_2) \cdot h_2^{\deg u_{k,i}} = \prod_{j=1}^{s_k} F_{k,j}^{e_{k,i,j}} \text{ in } \mathbb{K}[X_1, \dots, X_n]$$

with  $e_{k,i,j} \in \{0, 1\}$  because  $F_k$  are squarefree. Furthermore, the vectors  $e_{k,i}$  are orthogonal for the usual scalar product because  $F_k$  are squarefree.

(2) We show this item for  $k = 1$ , the case  $k = 2$  can be proved in a similar way. As  $F_1/F_2$  comes from the algorithm **Good Homography** and as explained in Remark 15 we can suppose that:

$$u_{k,1}(T) = (T - \alpha_k), \text{ with } \alpha_k \in \mathbb{K}.$$

The previous item allows us to write:

$$\frac{u_{1,i}}{u_{2,1}^{\deg u_{1,i}}} \left( \frac{h_1}{h_2} \right) = \frac{\left( \prod_{j=1}^{s_1} F_{1,j}^{e_{1,i,j}} \right) \cdot (h_2)^{\deg u_{1,i}}}{\left( \prod_{j=1}^{s_2} F_{2,j}^{e_{2,1,j}} \right)^{\deg u_{1,i}} \cdot (h_2)^{\deg u_{1,i}}} = \frac{\prod_{j=1}^{s_1} F_{1,j}^{e_{1,i,j}}}{\left( \prod_{j=1}^{s_2} F_{2,j}^{e_{2,1,j}} \right)^{\deg u_{1,i}}}.$$

By Proposition 4 applied to  $\frac{u_{1,i}}{u_{2,1}^{\deg u_{1,i}}} \left( \frac{h_1}{h_2} \right)$ , we get then:

$$D_{F_1/F_2} \left( \frac{\prod_{j=1}^{s_1} F_{1,j}^{e_{1,i,j}}}{\prod_{j=1}^{s_2} F_{2,j}^{e_{2,1,j} \cdot \deg u_{1,i}}} \right) = 0.$$

Now, we recall that  $F_{k,j}$  are Darboux polynomials, see Proposition 6 and Proposition 8. Then by Proposition 8, we deduce

$$\sum_{j=1}^{s_1} e_{1,i,j} \mathcal{G}_{F_{1,j}} - \deg(u_{1,i}) \sum_{j=1}^{s_2} e_{2,1,j} \mathcal{G}_{F_{2,j}} = 0.$$

It follows  $(e_{1,i,1}, \dots, e_{1,i,s_1}, \deg(u_{1,i}) \cdot e_{2,1,1}, \dots, \deg(u_{1,i}) \cdot e_{2,1,s_2}) \in \ker \mathcal{S}$ . Thus,  $e_{1,i} \in \pi_1(\ker \mathcal{S})$ .

(3) The vectors  $e_{k,1}, \dots, e_{k,t_k}$  are linearly independant because they are orthogonal. We just have to prove that these vectors generate  $\pi_k(\ker \mathcal{S})$ .

Suppose that  $\rho = (\rho_1, \dots, \rho_{s_1+s_2}) \in \ker \mathcal{S}$ . First, we clear the denominators and we suppose that  $\rho \in \mathbb{Z}^{s_1+s_2}$  instead of  $\mathbb{Q}^{s_1+s_2}$ .

In a first time we explain the strategy of the proof for this item, and in a

second time we will detail the proof.

We set

$$\frac{\mathcal{F}_1}{\mathcal{F}_2} = \frac{\prod_{j=1}^{s_1} F_{1,j}^{\rho_j}}{\prod_{j=1}^{s_2} F_{2,j}^{\rho_{s_1+j}}},$$

where  $\mathcal{F}_1, \mathcal{F}_2 \in \mathbb{K}[\underline{X}]$  and  $\mathcal{F}_1/\mathcal{F}_2$  is a reduced rational function.

Our goal is to get this kind of equality:

$$(\mathcal{E}), \quad \frac{\mathcal{F}_1}{\mathcal{F}_2} = \frac{\prod_{j=1}^{s_1} F_{1,j}^{\rho_j}}{\prod_{j=1}^{s_2} F_{2,j}^{\rho_{s_1+j}}} = \frac{\prod_{k=1}^2 \prod_{(i,k) \in I_{\text{num}}} \left( \prod_{j=1}^k F_{k,j}^{e_{k,i,j}} \right)^{m_{u_{k,i}}}}{\prod_{k=1}^2 \prod_{(i,k) \in I_{\text{den}}} \left( \prod_{j=1}^k F_{k,j}^{e_{k,i,j}} \right)^{m_{u_{k,i}}}},$$

where  $m_{u_{k,i}} \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $I = \{(1,1), \dots, (t_1,1), (1,2), \dots, (t_2,2)\}$ ,  $I_{\text{num}} \subset I$ ,  $I_{\text{den}} \subset I$  and  $I_{\text{num}} \cap I_{\text{den}} = \emptyset$ .

By the unicity of the factorization in irreducible factors we deduce:

$$\begin{aligned} \pi_1(\rho) &= \sum_{(i,1) \in I_{\text{num}}} m_{u_{1,i}} e_{1,i} - \sum_{(i,1) \in I_{\text{den}}} m_{u_{1,i}} e_{1,i}, \\ \pi_2(\rho) &= \sum_{(i,2) \in I_{\text{num}}} m_{u_{2,i}} e_{2,i} - \sum_{(i,2) \in I_{\text{den}}} m_{u_{2,i}} e_{2,i}. \end{aligned}$$

We get:  $\{e_{k,1}, \dots, e_{k,t_k}\}$  generates  $\pi_k(\ker \mathcal{S})$ , and this is the desired result.

Now we detail the proof with four steps:

(a) We remark:

$$\frac{F_1}{F_2} = \frac{u_1}{u_2}(h) = \frac{\prod_{i=1}^{\deg u} (h_1 - \mu_{1,i} h_2)}{\prod_{i=1}^{\deg u} (h_1 - \mu_{2,i} h_2)},$$

where  $\mu_{k,i}$  are roots of  $u_k$ .

(b) We have:

$$\frac{\mathcal{F}_1}{\mathcal{F}_2} = \frac{\prod_{j=1}^{d_1} (h_1 - \lambda_j h_2)^{m_j}}{\prod_{j=d_1+1}^{d_1+d_2} (h_1 - \lambda_j h_2)^{m_j}} \cdot h_2^\kappa, \text{ with } \kappa \in \mathbb{Z}, m_j \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Indeed, as  $\rho \in \ker \mathcal{S}$ , we have

$$\sum_{j=1}^{s_1} \rho_j \mathcal{G}_{F_{1,j}} - \sum_{j=1}^{s_2} \rho_{s_1+j} \mathcal{G}_{F_{2,j}} = 0.$$

Thus  $\prod_{j=1}^{s_1} F_{1,j}^{\rho_j}$  and  $\prod_{j=1}^{s_2} F_{2,j}^{\rho_{s_1+j}}$  are Darboux polynomials with the same cofactor. By Proposition 7, we deduce:

$$D_{F_1/F_2} \left( \frac{\prod_{j=1}^{s_1} F_{1,j}^{\rho_j}}{\prod_{j=1}^{s_2} F_{2,j}^{\rho_{s_1+j}}} \right) = 0.$$

Then  $D_{F_1/F_2}(\mathcal{F}_1/\mathcal{F}_2) = 0$  and thus  $\mathcal{F}_1/\mathcal{F}_2 = v_1/v_2(h)$  by Proposition 4. We denote by  $\lambda_j$  the roots of  $v_1$  and  $v_2$  and we get the desired result.

(c) We claim:

$$\frac{\mathcal{F}_1}{\mathcal{F}_2} = \frac{\prod_{k=1}^2 \prod_{(i,k) \in I_{\text{num}}} \left( u_{k,i} (h_1/h_2) h_2^{\deg u_{k,i}} \right)^{m_{u_{k,i}}}}{\prod_{k=1}^2 \prod_{(i,k) \in I_{\text{den}}} \left( u_{k,i} (h_1/h_2) h_2^{\deg u_{k,i}} \right)^{m_{u_{k,i}}}}, \text{ where } m_{u_{k,i}} \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Indeed, we have: for all  $j$  there exists  $\delta(j)$  such that  $\lambda_j = \mu_{\delta(j)}$ .

(To prove this remark we suppose the converse: There exists  $j_0$  such that  $\lambda_{j_0} \neq \mu_{k,i}$ , for  $k = 1, 2$  and  $i = 1, \dots, \deg u$ .)

By definition of  $\mathcal{F}_k$  and by step 3b, there exists  $(k_1, j_1)$  such that  $F_{k_1, j_1}$  and  $h_1 - \lambda_{j_0} h_2$  have a common factor in  $\mathbb{C}[X]$ . We call  $\mathcal{P}$  this common factor.

By step 3a, there exists  $(k_2, i_2)$  such that  $\mathcal{P}$  is a factor of  $h_1 - \mu_{k_2, i_2} h_2$ . Thus  $h_1 - \lambda_{j_0} h_2$  and  $h_1 - \mu_{k_2, i_2} h_2$  have a common factor. As  $\lambda_{j_0} \neq \mu_{k_2, i_2}$  we deduce that  $\mathcal{P}$  divides  $h_1$  and  $h_2$ . This is absurd because  $h_1/h_2$  is reduced.)

Thus  $\kappa = 0$ , and for all  $j$  there exists  $k(j) \in \{1, 2\}$  and such that  $u_{k(j)}(\lambda_j) = 0$ .

As  $v_1, v_2 \in \mathbb{K}[T]$ , by conjugation, we deduce that if  $\lambda_j$  and  $\lambda_{j'}$  are roots of the same irreducible polynomial  $u_{k,i} \in \mathbb{K}[T]$  then  $m_j = m_{j'}$ .

We denote by  $m_{u_{k,i}}$  this common value.

This gives the claimed equality with  $I_{\text{num}} \cap I_{\text{den}} = \emptyset$ , because  $\mathcal{F}_1/\mathcal{F}_2$  is reduced.

(d) Now we can prove equality  $(\mathcal{E})$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\mathcal{F}_1}{\mathcal{F}_2} &= \frac{\prod_{k=1}^2 \prod_{(i,k) \in I_{\text{num}}} \left( u_{k,i} (h_1/h_2) h_2^{\deg u_{k,i}} \right)^{m_{u_{k,i}}}}{\prod_{k=1}^2 \prod_{(i,k) \in I_{\text{den}}} \left( u_{k,i} (h_1/h_2) h_2^{\deg u_{k,i}} \right)^{m_{u_{k,i}}}}, \text{ by step 3c,} \\ &= \frac{\prod_{k=1}^2 \prod_{(i,k) \in I_{\text{num}}} \left( \prod_{j=1}^k F_{k,j}^{e_{k,i,j}} \right)^{m_{u_{k,i}}}}{\prod_{k=1}^2 \prod_{(i,k) \in I_{\text{den}}} \left( \prod_{j=1}^k F_{k,j}^{e_{k,i,j}} \right)^{m_{u_{k,i}}}}, \text{ by the first item.} \end{aligned}$$

This gives the desired equality  $(\mathcal{E})$ . □

Now we describe our recombination algorithm:

### Recombination for Decomposition

**Input:**  $f = f_1/f_2 \in \mathbb{K}(X_1, \dots, X_n)$ , such that (C) and (H) are satisfied.

**Output:** A decomposition of  $f$  if it exists, with  $f = u \circ h$ ,  $u = u_1/u_2$  with  $\deg u \geq 2$ , and  $h = h_1/h_2$  non-composite.

- (1) Compute  $F = F_1/F_2 := U(f)$  with the algorithm **Good homography**.
- (2) For  $k=1, 2$ , factorize  $F_k = \prod_{i=1}^{s_k} F_{k,i}$  in  $\mathbb{K}[\underline{X}]$  with  $F_{k,i}$  irreducible.
- (3) For each  $F_{k,i}$  compute the corresponding cofactor  $\mathcal{G}_{F_{k,i}} := D_{F_1/F_2}(F_{k,i})/F_{k,i}$ .
- (4) Build the system  $\mathcal{S}$  and compute the basis in reduced row echelon form  $\mathcal{B}_1$  of  $\pi_1(\ker \mathcal{S})$  and  $\mathcal{B}_2$  of  $\pi_2(\ker \mathcal{S})$ .
- (5) For  $k=1, 2$ , find  $v_k = (v_{k,1}, \dots, v_{k,s_k}) \in \mathcal{B}_k$  such that:  
 $\sum_{i=1}^{s_k} v_{k,i} \deg F_{k,i} = \min_{w \in \mathcal{B}_k} \sum_{i=1}^{s_k} w_i \deg F_{k,i}$ , where  $w := (w_1, \dots, w_{s_k})$ .
- (6) For  $k=1, 2$ , compute  $H_k := \prod_{i=1}^{s_k} F_{k,i}^{v_{k,i}}$ .

- (7) Set  $H := H_1/H_2$ .
- (8) Compute  $u$  such that  $u(H) = f$ .
- (9) Return  $H$ , and  $u$ .

**Proposition 17.** *The algorithm Recombination for Decomposition is correct.*

*Proof.* Consider  $F_1/F_2 := U(f)$ . As we want to decompose  $f_1/f_2$ , we just have to decompose  $F_1/F_2$ , because  $\deg U = 1$  and then  $U$  is invertible.

As  $F_1/F_2$  comes from the algorithm Good Homography we can suppose, see Remark 15, that  $u_{k,1}(T) = (T - \alpha_k)$  with  $\alpha_k \in \mathbb{K}$ , and  $k = 1, 2$ . Furthermore, by Lemma 12 we can also suppose that  $\deg u_1 = \deg u_2$ .

Then by Proposition 16, the basis  $\mathcal{B}_k$  of  $\pi_k(\ker \mathcal{S})$  are  $\{e_{k,1}, \dots, e_{k,t_k}\}$ .

The vector  $e_{k,i}$  gives the polynomial  $\mathcal{H}_{k,i} = \prod_{j=1}^{s_k} F_{k,j}^{e_{k,i,j}} = u_{k,i}(h)h_2^{\deg u_{k,i}}$ .

Furthermore  $\deg \mathcal{H}_{k,i} = \sum_{j=1}^{s_k} e_{k,i,j} \deg F_{k,j} = \deg u_{k,i} \deg h$ . Thus in Step 5

$$\min_{w \in \mathcal{B}_k} \sum_{i=1}^{s_k} w_i \deg F_{k,i} = \deg h,$$

because this minimum is reached with  $e_{k,1} \in \mathcal{B}_k$ . Hence  $v_k$  in Step 6 gives  $H_k = u_{k,i(k)}(h)h_2^{\deg u_{k,i(k)}}$  with  $\deg u_{k,i(k)} = 1$ .

It follows  $H = (h_1 - \alpha h_2)/(h_1 - \beta h_2)$  with  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{K}$ . Thus  $H = v(h)$  with  $\deg v = 1$ , then the algorithm is correct.  $\square$

**Proposition 18.** *The algorithm Recombination for Decomposition can be performed with  $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}(rd^{n+\omega-1})$  arithmetic operations over  $\mathbb{Q}$  and two factorizations of univariate polynomials of degree  $d$  with coefficients in  $\mathbb{K}$ .*

We recall that in our complexity analysis the number of variables is fixed and the degree  $d$  tends to infinity.

*Proof.* Step 1 uses  $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}(d^n)$  arithmetic operations over  $\mathbb{K}$  by Proposition 14, thus it uses  $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}(rd^n)$  arithmetic operations over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

Step 2 uses  $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}(d^{n+\omega-1})$  arithmetic operations over  $\mathbb{K}$  because we can use Lecerf's algorithm, see [Lec07]. Thus we use  $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}(rd^{n+\omega-1})$  arithmetic operations over  $\mathbb{Q}$  and two factorizations of univariate polynomials of degree  $d$  with coefficients in  $\mathbb{K}$ .

In Step 3, we compute  $D_{F_1/F_2}(F_{k,i})$ , thus we perform  $2(n-1)$  multiplications of multivariate polynomials. We can do this with a fast multiplication technique, and then this computation costs  $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}(nrd^n)$  arithmetic operations over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Then we divide  $D_{F_1/F_2}(F_{k,i})$  by  $F_{k,i}$ . We have to perform  $n-1$  exact divisions, thus with a Kronecker substitution we reduce this problem to  $n-1$  univariate divisions, and the cost of one such division belongs then to  $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}(rd^n)$ . As  $s_1$  and  $s_2$  are smaller than  $d$ , Step 3 costs  $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}(nrd^{n+1})$  arithmetic operations over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

Step 4 needs  $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}(nrd^n d^{\omega-1})$  arithmetic operations over  $\mathbb{Q}$  with Storjohann's method, see [Sto00, Theorem 2.10]. Indeed,  $\mathcal{S}$  has  $\mathcal{O}((n-1)rd^n)$  equations and  $s_1 + s_2$  unknowns, thus at most  $2d$  unknowns.

Step 5 has a negligible cost because  $\dim_{\mathbb{Q}} \pi_k(\ker \mathcal{S}) = t_k$  is smaller than  $d$  and  $s_k$  is also smaller than  $d$ .

In Step 6, we use a fast multiplication technique and we compute  $H_k$  with  $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}(rd^n)$  arithmetic operations over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

Step 8 can be done with  $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}(rd^n)$  arithmetic operations over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , see [Chè10].

Thus the global cost of the algorithm belongs to  $\tilde{O}(rd^{n+\omega-1})$  arithmetic operations over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .  $\square$

#### 4. EXAMPLES

In this section we show the behavior of the algorithm **Recombination for Decomposition** with two examples. We consider bivariate rational functions with rational coefficients. Thus hypothesis (C) is satisfied.

4.1.  **$f$  is non-composite.** We set:

$$\begin{aligned} f_1 &= (1 + X + Y^2)(X + Y) = X + X^2 + XY^2 + Y + YX + Y^3, \\ f_2 &= f_1 - (Y^2 - X - 1)(Y - 2X + 1) = -X^2 + 3XY^2 + 2Y + 2YX - Y^2 + 1 \end{aligned}$$

We have  $\deg(f_1 + \Lambda f_2) = \deg_Y(f_1 + \Lambda f_2) = 3$ , and

$$Res_Y(f_1(0, Y) + \Lambda f_2(0, Y), \partial_Y f_1(0, Y) + \Lambda \partial_Y f_2(0, Y)) = -4 - 24\Lambda - 92\Lambda^2 - 64\Lambda^3 + 8\Lambda^4.$$

Thus hypothesis (H) is satisfied.

The algorithm **Good homography** gives:

$$\lambda_a = f_1(0, 0)/f_2(0, 0) = 0 \text{ and } \lambda_b = f_1(0, 1)/f_2(0, 1) = 1.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} F_1 &= (1 + X + Y^2)(X + Y), \\ F_{1,1} &= 1 + X + Y^2, \\ F_{1,2} &= X + Y \\ F_2 &= (Y^2 - X - 1)(Y - 2X + 1), \\ F_{2,1} &= Y^2 - X - 1 \\ F_{2,2} &= Y - 2X + 1 \end{aligned}$$

The cofactors are:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{G}_{F_{1,1}} &= 3X^2 + 8YX^2 + 2X - 2YX + 7XY^2 - 1 + 3Y^2 - 6Y^3 - 6Y^4 + 2Y \\ \mathcal{G}_{F_{1,2}} &= 3X^2 + 8YX^2 + 4YX + 6X - 6Y^2 - 4Y + 3 - 3Y^4 - 2Y^3 \\ \mathcal{G}_{F_{2,1}} &= 3X^2 + 8YX^2 + XY^2 - 6YX + 2X - 1 - 2Y - 6Y^4 - 11Y^2 - 6Y^3 \\ \mathcal{G}_{F_{2,2}} &= 3X^2 + 8YX^2 + 6XY^2 + 8YX + 6X - 3Y^4 + 8Y^2 - 2Y^3 + 3 \end{aligned}$$

The linear system  $\mathcal{S}$  is the following:

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 3 & -1 & 3 \\ 2 & 6 & 2 & 6 \\ 3 & 3 & 3 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & -4 & -2 & 0 \\ -2 & 4 & -6 & 8 \\ 8 & 8 & 8 & 8 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & -6 & -11 & 8 \\ 7 & 0 & 1 & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -6 & -2 & -6 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -6 & -3 & -6 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

A basis of  $\ker(\mathcal{S})$  is given by:  $\{(-1, -1, 1, 1)\}$ .  
Then it follows that  $f_1/f_2$  is non-composite.

4.2.  **$f$  is composite.** Here we set:

$$\begin{aligned} h_1 &= (1 + X + Y^2)(X + Y) \\ h_2 &= h_1 - (Y^2 - X - 1)(Y - 2X + 1) \\ u_1 &= T.(T - 1) \\ u_2 &= T^2 + 1 \\ f_1/f_2 &= u_1/u_2(h_1/h_2). \end{aligned}$$

We have constructed a composite rational function  $f_1/f_2$  and now we illustrate how our algorithm computes a decomposition. We can already remark that in the previous example we have shown that  $h_1/h_2$  is non-composite.

In this situation the hypothesis (H) is satisfied and the algorithm **Good Homography** gives:

$$\lambda_a = f_1(0, 0)/f_2(0, 0) = 0 \text{ and } \lambda_b = f_1(0, 2)/f_2(0, 2) = 90/101.$$

Then:

$$\begin{aligned} F_{1,1} &= 1 + X + Y^2 \\ F_{1,2} &= 2X - Y - 1 \\ F_{1,3} &= Y^2 - X - 1 \\ F_{1,4} &= X + Y \\ F_{2,1} &= 2X^2 + 11X + 9 + 29XY + 29Y + 38XY^2 - 9Y^2 + 11Y^3 \\ F_{2,2} &= 11X^2 + X - 10 - 19YX - 19Y - 29XY^2 + 10Y^2 + Y^3 \end{aligned}$$



The basis in reduced row echelon form of  $\pi_1(\ker \mathcal{S})$  (resp.  $\pi_2(\ker \mathcal{S})$ ) is  $\{(1, 0, 0, 1); (0, 1, 1, 0)\}$  (resp.  $\{(1, 0); (0, 1)\}$ ).

Step 5 in the algorithm **Recombination for Decomposition** gives:  $v_1 = (1, 0, 0, 1)$  and  $v_2 = (1, 0)$ .

Then we have  $H_1 := F_{1,1} \cdot F_{1,4}$  and  $H_2 := F_{2,1}$ .

We remark that  $H_1 = h_1$  and that  $H_2 = 11h_1 + 9h_2$ . Then  $H_1/H_2 = w(h_1/h_2)$ , where  $w(T) = T/(11T + 9)$ . As  $h_1/h_2$  is non-composite and  $\deg w = 1$ , we get a correct output.

## 5. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, we summarize our algorithm with a “derivation point of view”.

In order to decompose  $f_1/f_2$ , we have computed with Darboux method a rational first integral of  $D_{f_1/f_2}$  with minimum degree. That is to say we have computed  $h_1/h_2 \in \mathbb{K}(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  such that  $D_{f_1/f_2}(h_1/h_2) = 0$  and  $\deg(h_1/h_2)$  is minimum. In a general setting, Darboux method works as follows: If we want to compute a rational first integral of a derivation  $D$ , first we compute all the Darboux polynomials  $F_i$  and their associated cofactors  $\mathcal{G}_{F_i}$ , second we solve the linear system

$$\sum_i e_i \mathcal{G}_{F_i} = 0.$$

Then thanks to Proposition 8, we deduce that  $\prod_i F_i^{e_i}$  is a first integral, i.e.  $D(\prod_i F_i^{e_i}) = 0$ .

When we consider the derivation  $D_{f_1/f_2}$  the computation of Darboux polynomials is reduced to the factorization of  $f_1 + \lambda f_2$ . Thus this step can be done efficiently. In the general setting, we can also reduce the computation of Darboux polynomials to a factorization problem, see [Chè11].

During the second step, we compute the kernel of  $\sum_i e_i \mathcal{G}_{F_i} = 0$ . It is actually a recombination step. Indeed, this system explains how we have to recombine  $F_i$  in order to get a rational first integral. Furthermore, the cofactor  $\mathcal{G}_{F_i} = D(F_i)/F_i$  can be viewed as a logarithmic derivative.

In conclusion, the recombination scheme used in this paper is called nowadays the logarithmic derivative method, but this method is Darboux original method.

## APPENDIX A. CONVEX-DENSE BIVARIATE DECOMPOSITION

In this appendix we give complexity results for the decomposition of sparse bivariate rational functions. These results rely on a strategy proposed by J. Berthomieu and G. Lecerf in [BL10].

Given a polynomial  $f(X, Y) \in \mathbb{K}[X, Y]$ , its support is the set  $S_f$  of integer points  $(i; j)$  such that the monomial  $X^i Y^j$  appears in  $f$  with a non zero coefficient. The convex hull, in the real space  $\mathbb{R}^2$  of  $S_f$  is denoted by  $N(f)$  and called the Newton’s polygon of  $f$ . We denote by  $|N(f)|$  the number of integral points of  $N(f)$ . We called  $|N(f)|$  the convex-size of  $f$ .

Roughly speaking, the transformation proposed in [BL10] consists in a monomial transformation that preserves the convex-size but decreases the dense size. The considered transformation  $\mathcal{T}$  can be described in the following way:

$$\mathcal{T} = \mathcal{B} \circ \mathcal{L}, \text{ where}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{B}(X^i Y^j) &= X^{i+b_1} Y^{j+b_2}, \quad b_1, b_2 \in \mathbb{Z}, \\ \mathcal{L}(X^i Y^j) &= X^{a_1 i + a_2 j} Y^{a_3 i + a_4 j}, \quad a_1 a_4 - a_2 a_3 = \pm 1.\end{aligned}$$

$\mathcal{T}$  can be defined on  $\mathbb{K}[X, Y, X^{-1}, Y^{-1}]$ , and we define:  $\mathcal{T}(\sum_{i,j} f_{i,j} X^i Y^j) = \sum_{i,j} f_{i,j} \mathcal{T}(X^i Y^j)$ .

The transformation  $\mathcal{L}$  corresponds to the linear map:  $(i, j) \mapsto \mathcal{A}^t(i, j)$ , where

$$\mathcal{A} = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{pmatrix}.$$

We denote by  $\mathcal{L}^{-1}$  the transformation corresponding to  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}$ .

If  $f(X, Y) \in \mathbb{K}[X, Y]$ , then  $\mathcal{L}(f) \in \mathbb{K}[X, Y, X^{-1}, Y^{-1}]$  and  $\mathcal{L}(f)$  can be written  $\mathcal{L}(f) = c_{\mathcal{L}}(f) \cdot \mathcal{L}_0(f)$ , where  $\mathcal{L}_0(f) \in \mathbb{K}[X, Y]$  and  $c_{\mathcal{L}}(f) = X^i Y^j \in \mathbb{K}[X, Y, X^{-1}, Y^{-1}]$ . Furthermore, we also have  $\mathcal{L}(F_1 \cdot F_2) = \mathcal{L}(F_1) \cdot \mathcal{L}(F_2)$ .

Let  $S$  be a finite subset of  $\mathbb{Z}^2$ . Set  $S$  is said to be normalized if it belongs to  $\mathbb{N}^2$  and if it contains at least one point in  $\{0\} \times \mathbb{N}$ , and also at least one point in  $\mathbb{N} \times \{0\}$ . For such a normalized set, we write  $d_x$  (resp.  $d_y$ ) for the largest abscissa (resp. ordinate) involved in  $S$ , so that the bounding rectangle is  $\mathcal{R} = [0, d_x] \times [0, d_y]$ . The following result is proved in [BL10, Theorem 2]:

*For any normalized finite subset  $S$  of  $\mathbb{Z}^2$ , of cardinality  $\sigma$ , convex-size  $\pi$ , and bounding rectangle  $[0, d_x] \times [0, d_y]$ , and dense size  $\delta = (d_x + 1)(d_y + 1)$ , one can compute an affine map  $\mathcal{T} = \mathcal{B} \circ \mathcal{L}$ , with  $\mathcal{O}(\sigma \log^2 \delta)$  bit-operations, such that  $\mathcal{T}(S)$  is normalized of dense size at most  $9\pi$ .*

We are going to use this transformation in order to prove:

**Theorem 19.** *Let  $f_1/f_2(X, Y) \in \mathbb{K}(X, Y)$  such that  $\deg(f_1/f_2) = d$ ,  $N(f_1) \subset N$ ,  $N(f_2) \subset N$  and  $N$  is normalized. Then*

- (1) *If  $\mathbb{K}$  is field with characteristic 0 or at least  $d(d-1)+1$  and (H) is satisfied, then there exists a probabilistic algorithm which computes the decomposition of  $f_1/f_2$  with at most  $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}(|N|^{1.5})$  operations in  $\mathbb{K}$  and two factorizations of a univariate polynomial of degree at most  $9|N|$  over  $\mathbb{K}$ .*
- (2) *If (C) and (H) are satisfied, then there exists a deterministic algorithm which computes the decomposition of  $f_1/f_2$  with at most  $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}(r \cdot |N|^{(\omega+1)/2})$  operations over  $\mathbb{Q}$  and two factorizations of an univariate polynomials of degree at most  $9|N|$  over  $\mathbb{Q}[\alpha]$ .*

Now, we explain how we use the transformation  $\mathcal{T}$  in the decomposition setting.

**Proposition 20.** *If  $f_1/f_2 = u(h_1/h_2)$  then  $\mathcal{T}(f_1)/\mathcal{T}(f_2) = u(\mathcal{L}(h_1)/\mathcal{L}(h_2))$ . If  $\mathcal{T}(f_1)/\mathcal{T}(f_2) = u(H_1/H_2)$  then  $f_1/f_2 = u(\mathcal{L}^{-1}(H_1)/\mathcal{L}^{-1}(H_2))$ .*

*Proof.* We prove the first item, the second can be proved in a similar way.

We have:  $\frac{f_1}{f_2} = \frac{\prod_i (h_1 - \mu_{1,i} h_2)}{\prod_j (h_1 - \mu_{2,j} h_2)}$ , where  $\mu_{k,i}$  are roots of  $u_k$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\mathcal{T}(f_1)}{\mathcal{T}(f_2)} &= \frac{\mathcal{B} \circ \mathcal{L}(f_1)}{\mathcal{B} \circ \mathcal{L}(f_2)} = \frac{X^{b_1} Y^{b_2} \mathcal{L}(f_1)}{X^{b_1} Y^{b_2} \mathcal{L}(f_2)} \\ &= \frac{\mathcal{L}(f_1)}{\mathcal{L}(f_2)} = \frac{\prod_i (\mathcal{L}(h_1) - \mu_{1,i} \mathcal{L}(h_2))}{\prod_j (\mathcal{L}(h_1) - \mu_{2,j} \mathcal{L}(h_2))} \\ &= \frac{u_1(\mathcal{L}(h_1)/\mathcal{L}(h_2))}{u_2(\mathcal{L}(h_1)/\mathcal{L}(h_2))} = u(\mathcal{L}(h_1)/\mathcal{L}(h_2))\end{aligned}$$

□

This gives the following algorithm:

**Convex bivariate decomposition**

**Input:**  $f = f_1/f_2 \in \mathbb{K}(X, Y)$ , where  $N(f_1) \subset N$ ,  $N(f_2) \subset N$  and  $N$  is normalized.

**Output:** A decomposition of  $f$  if it exists, with  $f = u \circ h$ ,  $u = u_1/u_2$  with  $\deg u \geq 2$ , and  $h = h_1/h_2$  non-composite.

- (1) Compute  $F = \mathcal{T}(f_1)/\mathcal{T}(f_2)$ .
- (2) Decompose  $F = u(H)$ .
- (3) Return  $f = u(h)$ , where  $h = \frac{\mathcal{L}^{-1}(H_1)}{\mathcal{L}^{-1}(H_2)} = \frac{c_{\mathcal{L}^{-1}}(H_1) \cdot \mathcal{L}_0^{-1}(H_1)}{c_{\mathcal{L}^{-1}}(H_2) \cdot \mathcal{L}_0^{-1}(H_2)} \in \mathbb{K}(X, Y)$ .

**Proposition 21.** *The algorithm Convex bivariate decomposition is correct.*

*Proof.* This follows from Proposition 20. □

**Proposition 22.** *The algorithm Convex bivariate decomposition uses one decomposition of a rational function of degree at most  $9|N|$  and  $\mathcal{O}(\sigma^2 \delta)$  bit operations.*

*Proof.* We apply [BL10, Theorem 2] to  $N$ . □

The proof of Theorem 19 comes from Proposition 21 and Proposition 22 and complexity results given in Theorem 1 and [Chè10, Theorem 2].

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